

Appl. No. 09/927,743

provide digital compressed signals that are coupled to a digital to analog formatter where they are formatted into an NTSC, PAL, or SECAM compatible analog signal. The active video portion of the signal uses a multilevel pulse amplitude coded signal to carry the digital compressed signal. The converted analog signal can then be stored or transmitted using existing NTSC, PAL, or SECAM standards and equipment.

**In the specification:**

Delete the paragraph starting on page 15 and ending on page 16 of the specification and replace with the following:

Fig. 3 shows an alternate encoder embodiment of the invention. A digital video signal 1a is received and coupled to a video compression circuitry 3 where it is compressed to provide a compressed video signal 5a. Optionally, a multiple channel digital audio signal 2a associated with the HDTV video signal 1a is received and coupled to an audio compression circuitry 4 to provide a compressed audio signal 6a. The video compression circuitry 3 and the audio compression circuitry 4 being the same as described with respect to Figure 1. The compressed video signal 5a and, if utilized, the compressed audio signal 6a are coupled to a digital combiner 12 which operates to provide a digital combined compressed audio and video signal 13 which is coupled to digital to analog formatter 7, corresponding in function to the digital to analog formatter 7 of Fig. 1. In this fashion the combined compressed digital signal 13 is converted to a suitable analog waveform and combined with standard sync and blanking waveforms to provide compatible analog signal 8a. It may be noted that while the preferred embodiment of the invention utilizes a single compatible analog signal 8a, there may be applications for the invention where multiple signals would be desirable. As one